

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02

INT-08 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /168 W

----- 083625

R 101020Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8846

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

JSEMBASSY KUWAIT 0018

AMEMBASSY MANILA

6 AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 4661

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN*NEW YORK

CINCPAC

DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 19059

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CB, TH

SUBJ: RTG AND MIDDLE EAST OIL

REFON A. BANGKOK 18625 (NOTAL)

B. BANGKOK 18667

1. THE DECEMBER 9 "BANGKOK POST" QUOTES A STATEMENT BY
DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CHARTCHAI CHUNHAWAN DEMANDING THAT
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ISRAEL IMMEDIATELY RETURN THE SINAI DESERT AND OTHER OCCUPIED

LANDS SEIZED IN 1967 TO THE ARABS. HE IS FURTHER QUOTED AS SAYING THAT ISRAEL SHOULD HELP THE UAR TO REOPEN THE SUEZ CANAL TO FACILITATE TRADE AND REDUCE FREIGHT RATES BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA.

2. CHARTCHAI, ACCOMPANIED BY OTHER RTG OFFICIALS, IS DEPARTING DECEMBER 12 TO NEGOTIATE FOR MIDDLE EAST OIL IN EXCHANGE FOR THAI COMMODITIES. THE THAI DELEGATION PLANS TO MEET WITH VARIOUS ARAB REPRESENTATIVES IN BEIRUT DECEMBER 12-13, AND WITH SAUDI ARABIAN OFFICIALS IN RIYAD DECEMBER 14-16. CHARTCHAI IS REPORTED TO HAVE SUGGESTED THAT, AS A*LONG-TERM MEASURE, THAI OIL REFINERIES SHOULD CONSIDER INVITING INVESTMENTS FROM ARABIA, KUWAIT, AND OTHER MIDDLE EAST OIL COUNTRIES IN THEIR PLANTS AS JOINT VENTURES TO ENSURE REGULAR PETROLEUM SUPPLIES.

3. CHARTCHAI'S TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA, REPORTED IN REF A AS CANCELLED, IS NOW ON. CHARTCHAI'S STATEMENT IS DESIGNED TO UNDERLINE THE PREVIOUS ASEAN PRESS STATEMENT REF B) WHICH THE ARABIA HAD MILDLY CRITICIZED FOR NOT BEING SO STRONG AS THE STATEMENT THE EEC ISSUED. THE RTG HOPES THAT THE CURRENT CHARTCHAI ANNOUNCEMENT WILL SMOOTH THE PATH FOR THE THAI DELEGATION'S VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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